

## Artillery thunder, lightning help deter insurgents

By Sgt. M Trent Lowry, USMC, 1AD PAO  
FORWARD OPERATING BASE ST. MICHEL, Iraq – Soldiers of B Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, Task Force 1st Armored Division, used thunder and lightning to try to flush out insurgents recently.

The mission in Mullafayad, a town about 20 miles south of Baghdad, and the surrounding areas was to deter insurgents from attacking Iraqi communities and Coalition forces in the area. The cannoneers of 4-27 FA brought the thunder of their howitzers to bear on nearby rural areas, lighting the area with illumination rounds.

"We're doing our best to secure the routes into the city," said Capt. James M. Collins, B Battery commander. "We're getting a lot of intelligence and a lot of weapons out there, but it's hard to tell how many people are out there against us."

According to Collins, one way of trying to discover who may be setting up improvised explosive devices or

firing mortars at Soldiers in the area is to catch the culprits when they are most active: at night.

The battery uses two platoons for these night missions. One fires its M109 A6 Paladin 155 mm howitzers, the other conducts infantry missions.

Working as a team, the Soldiers hunt or deter attackers who use IEDs, rocket-propelled grenades and mortars.

"This mission is as important, if not more so, than anything we did in Baghdad," said Collins, referring to the year TF 1AD Soldiers spent patrolling the streets of Iraq's capital city. "There were a few munitions factories in this area before, and when the war kicked off the factories were looted. That's why there are a lot of bombs to deal with here."

The battery's platoon of infantry set out on foot late at night to find a forward observation point to assess any enemy activity in the area. There was just a sliver of moon available for ambient lighting, so they were going to need help.

Fortunately, luck wasn't needed

and help was on the way.

The firing battery lit up the dark Iraqi night with illumination rounds that let the ground warriors see for miles during a time when night vision goggles are normally the only means of sight.

The idea was to catch enemies in the act and to give other potential adversaries reason to think twice about performing any action against Iraqi civilians or the Soldiers in the area.

"We were unable to observe any attempts last night," said Collins, after the mission. "But the awareness is out there that we can monitor them at any time. Hopefully that will help deter their actions."

After sunrise, B Battery set out on foot again. This time they patrolled the streets of Mullafayad, which were vibrant with the activities of the local populace. Their goal was to meet with the people of the town to let them know that Soldiers were on the job to keep the sector secure.

"I feel we came over here to take out a regime and free people," said Spc. Kyle W. Shifflett, a fire support specialist with B Battery, 4-27 FA. "The benefit of these patrols is to win the confidence of the people and let them know we're trying to get the weapons off the street and improve their quality of life."

In addition to greeting the citizens, the Soldiers passed out flyers printed in English and Arabic letting the people know that there is a reward for information and the turnover of weapons.

In all, the Soldiers of Bravo Battery said they believe the mission went well.

"We got a feeling of the city's response to the artillery and the presence of the patrol," Collins said. "All tasks laid out were accomplished and that defines it as a success."



Photo by Sgt. M. Trent Lowry, USMC

During a recent patrol in Mullafayad, Iraq, Spc. Kyle W. Shifflett, a fire support specialist with 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, TF 1AD, speaks to Iraqi children in Arabic after passing out leaflets.



## Quote of the Day...

*We could never learn to be brave and patient, if there were only joy in the world.*

Helen Keller (1880-1968)



Task Force 1st Armored Division's 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, commander Lt. Col. Bill Rabena and Honduran Xatruch Expeditionary Battalion commander Col. Wilfredo Calderon exchange gifts during the units' transfer of authority ceremony in An Najaf, Iraq, May 16. Responsibility of Forward Operating Base Hotel was passed to 2-3 FA as the Hondurans prepared to leave Iraq. (Photo by Sgt. Christopher Stanis, 1AD PAO)

## Oddly Enough...

### Car Damaged by Flying Portable Toilet

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) -- A woman's car was badly damaged Wednesday when a portable toilet was whisked into the air in a storm and flung down on the hood of her car, police said.

The accident happened as the woman was driving toward downtown Hamburg, police spokesman Ralf Kunz said. The woman was not hurt, but the toilet caused damage estimated at \$6,000.

## Chaplain's Thought for the Day...

### A Father's Love

There's a Spanish story of a father and son who had become estranged. The son ran away, and the father set off to find him. He searched for months to no avail.

Finally, in a last desperate effort to find him, the father put an ad in a Madrid newspaper. The ad read: Dear Paco, meet me in front of this newspaper office at noon on Saturday. All is forgiven. I love you. Your Father.

On Saturday 800 Pacos showed up, looking for forgiveness and love from their fathers.

## Today in History...

(Historynet.com)

**1692**

Bridget Bishop is hanged in Salem, Mass., for witchcraft.

**1776**

The Continental Congress appoints a committee to write a Declaration of Independence.

**1801**

Tripoli declares war on the U.S. for refusing to pay tribute.

**1861**

Dorothea Dix is appointed superintendent of female nurses for the Union Army.

**1898**

U.S. Marines land in Cuba.

**1905**

Japan and Russia agree to peace talks brokered by President Theodore Roosevelt.

**1909**

An SOS signal is transmitted for the first time in an emergency when the Cunard liner SS *Slavonia* is wrecked off the Azores.

**1920**

The Republican convention in Chicago endorses women suffrage.

**1925**

Tennessee adopts a new biology text book denying the theory of evolution.

**1940**

The Norwegian army capitulates to the Germans.

**1943**

The Allies begin bombing Germany around the clock.

**1985**

The Israeli Army pulls out of Lebanon after 1,099 days of occupation.

**1999**

Serb forces begin their withdrawal from Kosovo after signing an agreement with the NATO powers.





# For your Information...



## "USA Express" Performance Schedule

Camp Delta, Al Kut 10 JUN 1830-2030

BIAP (W), DFAC 11 JUN 1130-1230

123rd MSB, BIAP (W) 11 JUN 2000-2200

BIAP (EI), Circus Tent 12 JUN 1900-2100

Striker's Island, BIAP (W) 13 JUN 2000-2200

Sponsored by:

TF 1AD, G1 MWR

*America's Tank Division*

## Division AER drive continues through June

### 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division Public Affairs Office

Task Force 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division is running an Army Emergency Relief campaign through June 25 to heighten Soldiers' awareness of the program.

Through the donations this private nonprofit organization provides assistance to active duty Soldiers, retirees and family members.

"This is the Army's own organization that's sole mission is to help soldiers and their dependents," said Capt. Allison Morgan, TF 1AD AER campaign manager. "It provides assistance ... in emergency or hardship situations."

AER provides assistance for food, rent or utilities; emergency transportation and vehicle repair; funeral expenses; medical and dental expenses; and personal needs when pay is delayed or stolen; as well as gives undergraduate-level education scholarships, based primarily on financial need, to children of soldiers.

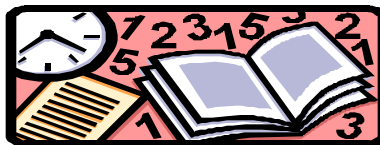
Though units around the Army only hold one campaign a year, Soldiers can make donations at any time, noted Morgan.

The goal with the task force's campaign is 100 percent contact – meaning every soldier is given the opportunity to donate. This is done through unit and section campaign representatives. Soldiers can donate via cash check or allotment and 97 cents out of every dollar goes to the funds.

"You don't have to be a contributor to take advantage of the assistance," Morgan said, adding, "(But) even if you never need it you're still helping other Soldiers."

For more information on AER, Soldiers can contact their unit representatives, reference the program's Army Regulation 930-4, or go to [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org).

## EXPANDED HOURS



- Starting Monday, 14 June 04, the BIAP APO will provide full service seven days a week from 0900-2000.



Expanded hours will ensure 1AD soldiers have ample opportunity to mail boxes and letters to both Germany and Stateside prior to redeployment.

myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2004				As of: Wednesday, June 09, 2004 5:25:09 PM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
0:00	SPORTSCENTER				HEADLINE NEWS	0:00
0:30		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD			NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	0:30
1:00	MLB - INTERLEAGUE - SAN DIEGO PADRES @ BOSTON RED SOX	THE LOST WORLD: JURASSIC PARK	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - BOGGED DOWN	SESAME STREET	ABC WORLD NEWS TONIGHT	1:00
1:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY7): - PRE-HIBERNATION WEEK/LIFE OF CRIME		CBS EVENING NEWS	1:30
2:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - DEEP SPACE HOMER	PLAY WITH ME SESAME	COUNTDOWN WITH KEITH OLBERMANN	2:00
2:30			HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO	WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		2:30
3:00			ONE TREE HILL (TVPG): - THE PLACES YOU HAVE COME TO FEAR THE MOST	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	HANNITY & COLMES	3:00
3:30		THE PURPLE ROSE OF CAIRO				3:30
4:00	MLB - INTERLEAGUE - CINCINNATI REDS @ OAKLAND ATHLETICS		THE WEST WING (TVPG): - PROCESS STORIES	THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):	THE NEWSHOUR	4:00
5:00		HEADLINE NEWS	DOMINICK DUNNE'S POWER, PRIVILEGE, AND JUSTICE (TVPG): - UNBRIDLED GREED	NBC NIGHTLY NEWS	BET NIGHTLY NEWS	5:00
5:30		ESPNEWS		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):	NIGHTLY BUSINESS REPORT	5:30
6:00		HEADLINE NEWS	JOURNEYS TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH - THE FORBIDDEN ZONE	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD	LARRY KING LIVE	6:00
6:25				GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):		6:25
6:30		HEADLINE NEWS				6:30
7:00	ESPNEWS	SESAME STREET	MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE WAY WE LIVE NOW (PT. 3)		NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	7:00
7:13				GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):		7:13
7:30	TOTALLY NASCAR					7:30
8:00	SPORTSCENTER	PLAY WITH ME SESAME	MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE WAY WE LIVE NOW (PT. 4)[60MINS]	DISNEY'S HERCULES (TVY): - THE MONOTOUR	PAULA ZAHN NOW	8:00
8:30		WHEEL OF FORTUNE (TVG):		HEY ARNOLD! (TVY): - FRIDAY THE 13TH/HEADLESS CABBIE		8:30
9:00	PBR BULL RIDING - THE U.S. ARMY INVITATIONAL (COLORADO SPRINGS, CO)	THE DR. PHIL SHOW (TVPG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - BOGGED DOWN	YU-GI-OH! (TVY): - ARENA OF LOST SOULS (PT. 2)	NIGHTLINE	9:00
9:30			SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY7): - PRE-HIBERNATION WEEK/LIFE OF CRIME	JACKIE CHAN ADVENTURES (TVY7): - THE RETURN OF THE PUSSYCAT	ARMY NEWSWATCH	9:30
9:46		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW (TVPG):				9:46
10:00			THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - DEEP SPACE HOMER	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS MATTHEWS	10:00
10:30	PARDON THE INTERRUPTION		HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO	HEADLINE NEWS		10:30
10:35		GUIDING LIGHT (TV14):				10:35
11:00	SPORTSCENTER		ONE TREE HILL (TVPG): - THE PLACES YOU HAVE COME TO FEAR THE MOST	ESPNEWS	60 MINUTES II	11:00
11:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL (TV14):				11:17
11:30				PACIFIC REPORT		11:30
12:00	MLB - INTERLEAGUE - PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES @ CHICAGO WHITE SOX	HEADLINE NEWS	THE WEST WING (TVPG): - PROCESS STORIES	EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND (TVPG): - MISERY LOVES COMPANY	THE O'REILLY FACTOR	12:00
12:25				SCRUBS (TV14): - MY DIRTY SECRET		12:25
12:30		JUDGE JUDY (TVPG):				12:30
12:50				REEL TIME		12:50
13:00		TODAY	DOMINICK DUNNE'S POWER, PRIVILEGE, AND JUSTICE (TVPG): - UNBRIDLED GREED	EXTREME MAKEOVER (TVPG): - SARAH AND LIZ	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	13:00
14:00			JOURNEYS TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH - THE FORBIDDEN ZONE	E.R. (TVPG): - GET CARTER		14:00
15:00	SPORTSCENTER	DISNEY'S HERCULES (TVY): - THE MONOTOUR	MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE WAY WE LIVE NOW (PT. 3)	PACIFIC REPORT	HEADLINE NEWS	15:00
15:30		HEY ARNOLD! (TVY): - FRIDAY THE 13TH/HEADLESS CABBIE		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):	ABC WORLD NEWS THIS MORNING	15:30
16:00	AMA MOTOCROSS - MT. MORRIS, PA	YU-GI-OH! (TVY): - ARENA OF LOST SOULS (PT. 2)	MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE WAY WE LIVE NOW (PT. 4)[60MINS]		THE EARLY SHOW	16:00
16:30		JACKIE CHAN ADVENTURES (TVY7): - THE RETURN OF THE PUSSYCAT		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):		16:30
17:00	SPORTSCENTER	JEOPARDY! (TVG):	THE WILD THORNBERRYS (TVY): - BOGGED DOWN			17:00
17:30		HEADLINE NEWS	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (TVY7): - PRE-HIBERNATION WEEK/LIFE OF CRIME	ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		17:30
18:00	ESPNEWS	ESPNEWS	THE SIMPSONS (TVPG): - DEEP SPACE HOMER	BATTLE OF THE BULGE	FOX NEWS LIVE	18:00
18:19	BASEBALL TONIGHT					18:19
18:30		HEADLINE NEWS	HAPPY DAYS (TVG): - BREAKING UP IS HARD TO DO			18:30
19:00	MLB - ATLANTA BRAVES @ DETROIT TIGERS	EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND (TVPG): - MISERY LOVES COMPANY	ONE TREE HILL (TVPG): - THE PLACES YOU HAVE COME TO FEAR THE MOST		60 MINUTES II	19:00
19:25		SCRUBS (TV14): - MY DIRTY SECRET				19:25
19:50		REEL TIME				19:50
20:00		EXTREME MAKEOVER (TVPG): - SARAH AND LIZ	THE WEST WING (TVPG): - PROCESS STORIES		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
21:00		E.R. (TVPG): - GET CARTER	DOMINICK DUNNE'S POWER, PRIVILEGE, AND JUSTICE (TVPG): - UNBRIDLED GREED	AMERICA'S FUNNIEST HOME VIDEOS (TVG):	HEADLINE NEWS	21:00
21:30					INSIDE POLITICS	21:30
22:00	PGA TOUR - BUICK CLASSIC: FIRST ROUND	HEADLINE NEWS	JOURNEYS TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH - THE FORBIDDEN ZONE	ESPNEWS: THE HOT LIST		22:00
22:30		TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO (TVPG):		HEADLINE NEWS	ARMY NEWSWATCH	22:30
23:00			MASTERPIECE THEATER (TVPG): - THE WAY WE LIVE NOW (PT. 3)	TODAY	LESTER HOLT LIVE	23:00
23:30		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN (TVPG):				23:30